

AMENDMENTS OF THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

Methods and compositions are provided for the treatment of articular cartilage defects and disease involving the combination of tissue, such as osteochondral grafts, with active growth factor. The active growth factor is preferably a composition containing at least one bone morphogenetic protein and a suitable carrier. The method results in the regeneration of and/or functional repair of articular cartilage tissue.